

## REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed June 13, 2003, the Examiner noted that claims 1-5 were pending and rejected all claims. Claims 1, 2 and 5 have been amended, new claim 6 has been added and, thus, in view of the forgoing claims 1-6 remain pending for reconsideration which is requested. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

Pages 2-7 of the Office Action rejects all claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over various combinations of Reiter, Toyoshima and Fujieda.

Reiter is directed to a system that allows a multiple level aggregation query by a user. The query causes a set of tables to be produced by a database engine and called a hierarchical table set. Each table in the set includes aggregation information for one level of the multiple levels. The tables are used by a database front end that provides an interface to the user. The front end interface uses the tables to generate hierarchical window displays. As depicted in the drawings, the data uses classification information within the database.

In contrast, the present invention provides totalization based on hierarchical information where the totalization information is displayed very readily in a form each individual user demands independently of data contents and regardless of the presence or absence of classification information (see claims 1 and 5). This solves a problem not contemplated or recognized by Reiter and which is discussed on pages 1 and 2 of the application specification.

The present invention allows the generation and display in more than one form. For example, a first user can have totalization results in a form useful for analyzing a set of purchase orders from the perspective of a person who places the orders and another user can have the totalization results provided in a form useful for a receiver of the orders. That is, the system allows flexibility in the creation of useful forms of the totalization information where substantially instantaneous changes in the form of the display are possible. The invention also performs totalization automatically within each level of the hierarchy.

Toyoshima is directed to a system that has data arranged in a hierarchy particularly directed to personnel information of an organization structure. However, Toyoshima says nothing about a system that provides the features or solves the problem noted above. As a result, Toyoshima adds nothing to Reiter with respect to the present invention.

Fujieda, like Toyoshima, is directed to a system that has data arranged in a hierarchy where in the case of Fujieda the hierarchy relates to products and parts relationships.

However, Fujieda, again like Toyoshima, says nothing about a system that provides the feature or solves the problem noted above. As a result, Fujieda adds nothing to Reiter and Toyoshima with respect to the present invention.

It is submitted that the invention of the independent claims distinguishes over the prior art and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

The dependent claims depend from the above-discussed independent claims and are patentable over the prior art for the reasons discussed above. The dependent claims also recite additional features not taught or suggested by the prior art. For example, claim 2 allows plural levels to be displayed based on the classification-less data to be totalized. It is submitted that the dependent claims are independently patentable over the prior art.

New claim 6 emphasizes that the present invention allows the hierarchical totalization even in when classification information is not available to allow totalization, as is traditionally required. Nothing in the prior art teaches or suggests such. It is submitted that the new claim distinguishes over the prior art.

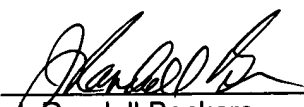
It is further submitted that the claims are not taught, disclosed or suggested by the prior art. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

If any further fees, other than and except for the issue fee, are necessary with respect to this paper, the U.S.P.T.O. is requested to obtain the same from deposit account number 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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